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ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE TWO THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 31 July 1991, at 12 noon

President:	Mr. ALARCON de QUESADA	(Cuba)
Members:	Austria	Mr. HAJNOCZI
	Belgium	Mr. NOTERDAEME
	China	Mr. LI Daoyu
	Côte d'Ivoire	Mrs. KABA
	Ecuador	Mr. AYALA LASSO
	France	Mr. ROCHEREAU DE LA SABLIERE
	India	Mr. GHAREKHAN
	Romania	Mr. FLOREAN
	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Mr. LOZINSKY
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir David HANNAY
	United States of America	Mr. PICKERING
	Yemen	Mr. AL-ASHTAL
	Zaire	Mr. BAGBENI ADEITO NZENGEYA
	Zimbabwe	Mr. MUMBENGEGWI

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The meeting was called to order at 12.05 p.m.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING PRESIDENT

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): As this is the first meeting of the Security Council this month, I should like, on behalf of the Council and on my own behalf, to pay a warm tribute to my distinguished predecessor, Mr. Jean-Jacques Bechio, Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire, for his services as President of the Council for the month of June. In expressing my gratitude to Mr. Bechio for the courtesy and diplomatic talent which he demonstrated in conducting the proceedings of the Council last month, I am sure that I speak for all members of the Council.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON (S/22829)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for the period from 23 January 1991 to 20 July 1991 (S/22829). In this report it is mentioned that during the current mandate period four members of the Force lost their lives. Furthermore, seven soldiers suffered injuries. I am sure that I speak for all members of the Council in extending sincere condolences to the Governments and families of the deceased who gave their lives in the cause of peace. Members of the Council also have the following documents before them: S/22791, letter dated 15 July 1991 from the Permanent

(The President)

Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General; S/22857, which contains the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's consultations.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour: Austria, Belgium, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, France, India, Romania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yemen, Zaire, Zimbabwe

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 701 (1991).

(The President)

Following consultations among members of the Security Council I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The members of the Security Council have noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) (S/22829) submitted in conformity with resolution 684 (1991).

"They reaffirm their commitment to the full sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries. In this context, they assert that any State shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

"As the Security Council extends the mandate of UNIFIL for a further interim period on the basis of resolution 425 (1978), the members of the Council again stress the need for the implementation of that resolution in all its aspects. They express their appreciation for the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General and his staff in this regard. They reiterate their full support for the Taif Agreement and commend the Lebanese Government for the recent successful deployment of its army in the Sidon and Tyre regions in the process of extending its authority over all Lebanese territory.

(The President)

"The members of the Security Council take this opportunity to commend UNIFIL's troops and troop-contributing countries for their sacrifices and commitment to the cause of international peace and security under difficult circumstances".

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.